



TOWN OF CUMMINGTON
Annual Town Meeting
Friday, May 6, 2022

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Joshua Wachtel at 7:02 p.m. at the Pettingill Memorial Park, at 14 Main Street, with over the required town quorum. The present total was 33 registered residents, and 6 non-residents. This was the third year to have an outside Annual Town Meeting in the Town of Cummington due to Covid. In the past it was held at the Community House on 33 Main Street. The location was changed last minute, due to an increase in Covid cases regionally and locally. Attendees were encouraged to wear masks and practice social distancing.

ARTICLE 1: Motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to fix the salaries and compensation of all **Elected Officials** of the Town for Fiscal 2023, as provided in Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as follows:

Selectboard, Chair	\$1,500.00
Selectman 2	1,300.00
Selectman 3	1,300.00
Assessor, Chair	1,200.00
Assessor 2	1,100.00
Assessor 3	1,100.00
Town Clerk	12,000.00
Moderator	100.00
Tree Warden	50.00
BOH Chair	1,000.00
BOH 2	500.00
BOH 3	500.00
Voc. School Chair	40.00
Voc. School 2	15.00
Voc. School 3	15.00
Water Comm. Chair	500.00
Water Comm. 2	300.00
Water Comm. 3	<u>300.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$22,820.00
Constable	\$20.00/hr.
Mileage reimbursement for Town Officials	.55 cents/mile

ARTICLE 2: Motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the following amounts for the **General Government Accounts**:

Official Salaries	22,820.00
Administration General	5,500.00
Administration Various Officials	800.00
Town Counsel	10,000.00
Administration Selectboard	17,200.00
Administration Finance Committee	150.00
Accountant Salary	20,000.00
Administration Accountant	6,039.00
Accountant Professional Services	6,000.00
Administration Assessors	4,556.00
Assessors Clerk	13,000.00
Assessor Consultant	5,500.00
Assessors Tax Maps	2,400.00
Treasurer's Salary	15,450.00
Administration Treasurer	6,400.00
Tax Collector Salary	12,875.00
Administration Tax Collector	9,275.00
Tax Title Expense	3,225.00
Tax Possession Expense	5,000.00
Administration Town Clerk	1,295.00
Assistant Town Clerk Salary	3,640.00
Election & Registration Salaries	3,012.00
Election & Registration Expense	894.00
Conservation Commission	250.00
Planning Board Expense	900.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	<u>500.00</u>
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS:	\$176,681.00

ARTICLE 3: Motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the following amounts to the **Highway Department Accounts**, and combine the Highway Vac, Holiday, Sick & Personal accounts into the Highway Salaries account.

Highway Garage	\$14,000.00
Highway Administration	1,000.00
Highway General	110,000.00
Highway Tool & Machinery	80,000.00
Highway Salaries & Hwy Vac., Hol, & Sick	214,126.00
Highway Overtime	20,508.00
Winter Roads	<u>80,000.00</u>
TOTAL HIGHWAYS	\$519,634.00

ARTICLE 4: Motion was made, seconded, and put-on hold so that we could hear from the personnel in attendance. Leslie Blake-Davis Superintendent, who spoke a few words about how the school year is going for the students and staff. There were questions about how the transportation for the students in CBRSD is less for fiscal 2023. Greg Boino Director of Finance and Operations briefly explained. As discussed in the past, Brian Gilman talked about the lack of students enrolled in CBRSD. Working on some ways, the Town of Cummington can change the future for students living in the town. A motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the following **School & Libraries Accounts:**

CBRSD Operating Expense	\$653,498.00
CBRSD Capital Expense	46,487.00
CBRSD Transportation	9,460.00
Vocational Tuition	111,732.00
Vocational Transportation	45,360.00
Library Appropriation	<u>8,100.00</u>
TOTAL SCHOOLS & LIBRARIES:	\$880,637.00

ARTICLE 5: Motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$24,103.00** to the **Veterans Account**.

ARTICLE 6: Motion was made, seconded, and put-on hold for Chief Michael Perkins to speak further about the Bridge Academy Program and new laws for certification for police training. There was a handout for people in the audience to look further into. There was also a question about the salary difference between the Fire Chief and Police Chief stipend. After the quick discussion on salaries a motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the following for **Protection of Persons and Property Accounts:**

Police Department	\$16,000.00
Police Dept Salaries	20,000.00
Police Chief Stipend	30,000.00
Police Training	7,000.00
F.D./Forest Warden	25,395.00
Fire Chief Stipend	15,000.00
Firefighter Stipend	8,000.00
Building Inspector	12,200.00
Building Inspector Administration	500.00
Safety Complex	19,765.00
Emergency Manager Stipend	5,000.00
Emergency Management	1,300.00
Animal Control Officer Expenses	1,000.00
Animal Control Salary	3,200.00
Tree Account	<u>6,000.00</u>
TOTAL PROTECTION OF PRSONS & PROP ACCT.	\$170,190.00

ARTICLE 7: Motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to transfer \$49,717.00 from **Free Cash** and transfer \$3,377.00 from **Water Revenue** to the **Water Enterprise Fund** for a total of \$53,094.00 for operating expenses. Motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to transfer \$12,700.00 from **Water Revenue** to the **Water Enterprise Fund** for **Stipend and Wages**. Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the following amounts to the **Health and Sanitation Accounts**.

Fire Hydrant Assessment	\$9,500.00
Board of Health Operating	58,500.00
Board of Health Wages	25,500.00
Highland Ambulance	<u>48,851.00</u>
TOTAL HEALTH & SANITATION	\$208,145.00

ARTICLE 8: Motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to transfer \$24,000.00 from **Free Cash** to the Highway Truck Loan and transfer \$768.00 from **Free Cash** to the **Highway Truck Loan Interest**. Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to transfer \$25,000.00 from **Free Cash** to the **CAT Loader Loan** and transfer \$2,700.00 from **Free Cash** to the **CAT Loader Loan Interest**. Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the following amounts for **Debt and Interest Accounts**:

Safety Complex Loan	\$41,606.00
Safety Complex Loan Interest	35,968.00
School Roof Loan	32,000.00
School Roof Interest	741.00
Broadband Loan	80,000.00
Broadband Interest	40,463.00
Interest in Loans	<u>5,000.00</u>
TOTAL DEBT & INTEREST	\$288,246.00

ARTICLE 9: Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the following amounts for **Unclassified Accounts**:

Insurance and Bonds	\$47,000
And transfer from Historical Commission	3,000
Lawn Mowing	\$6,000.00
Community House	17,175.00
Phone/Internet	16,800.00
Information Technology (IT)	20,242.00
Town Reports	3,400.00
Council on Aging	2,000.00
Council on Aging Wages	3,360.00
Cummington Recreation	4,000.00

Contributory Retirement	87,452.00
Council of Governments	3,000.00
Unemployment Compensation	550.00
Medical Insurance	35,143.00
Medicare & Social Security	17,360.00
Audit	8,000.00
Lower Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	155.00
Reserve Fund	6,000.00
Berkshire Trail School Building	40,000.00
Animal Inspector	500.00
Cemetery Maintenance	<u>8,000.00</u>
TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED ACCOUNTS	\$329,137.00

ARTICLE 10: Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to set the cap of \$10,000.00 for **Community House Revolving** and \$10,000.00 for the **Inspectors Revolving Accounts**.

ARTICLE 11: Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to establish the **Water Department** as an **Enterprise Fund** effective fiscal year 2023.

ARTICLE 12: Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to wait for funds from ARPA to help with removing and replacing the underground fuel storage tanks the sum of \$60,999.00 at the Highway Garage.

ARTICLE 13: Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of \$8,000.00 for the **Fire Department Capital**. (3,500 turnout gear, 2,500 for portable radio and 2,000 for regional training).

ARTICLE 14: Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to amend and correct the motion unanimously adopted at the Special Town Meeting held on June 25, 2021, to read as follows:

“to transfer a parcel of land 5.128 acres on West Cummington Road to the Cummington Conservation Commission. This was acquired by the Town through tax taking in 2011 shown in Hampshire Registry of Deeds Book 10528 page 162. Parcel A on Plan of Land in Plan Book 115 page 34.”

Joy Johns explained that the original vote on June 25, 2021, listed the parcel show on the plan as parcel B, instead of the Parcel A.

ARTICLE 15: Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to authorize the **Board of Selectmen** to apply for Federal, State, or other grants that may be available and to expend any money received.

ARTICLE 16: Motion made, seconded and voted unanimously in accordance with the Provision of Chapter 41, Section 4A of the General Laws to authorize the employment of the members of the Board of Selectmen, Selectmen by the Highway Department, the members of the Board of Health by the Health Department, the Water Commissioners by the Water Department, the Assessors by the Board of Assessors, the Historical Commission members by the Historical Commission, and to fix the rate of \$18.00 per hr. As compensation for such employment, and to vote to pay the Highway Department employees hired by the Water Commissioners at their Highway Department rate of pay from the Water Department Account.

ARTICLE 17: Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to accept any available funds relating to highways including without limitations so-called Chapter 90 type construction monies and further voted to authorize the Selectman to enter into contracts for the expenditure of the monies received.

Before the town meeting dissolved, Maureen Tumenas thanked the Fire Department for all their hard work. Most especially very thankful for when they help her last fall when a tree fell on her house.

A motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to dissolve this meeting at 8:00 p.m.

This is a true record to the best of my knowledge.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda Emerson-Camp".

**Brenda Emerson-Camp
Cummington Town Clerk
May 23, 2022**